

previously allotted foodgrains is lifted and 60% of the lifted quantity is utilized/distributed.

Effect of Excise Duty on readymade garments

†1935. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after imposition of excise duty on readymade garments by Government, sickness is increasing in this industry.

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that almost 58,000 small industries in readymade garment sector have become sick so far; and

(c) if not, the details available with Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Consequent to introduction of 16% excise duty on readymade garments, Government have considered the grievances of the industry and taken a number of measures to address the concerns of the garment sector. The new measures include extension of SSI excise duty exemption to readymade garment sector. Clearances for home consumption upto Rs. 1 crore are exempted from excise duty. Units exporting substantial part of its production and whose clearance for home consumption does not exceed the full exemption limit of Rs. 1

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

[8 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

crore have been extended the benefit of simplified procedure for exports. Exemption has also been provided from excise duty to raincoats, undergarments and clothing accessories such as handkerchiefs, shawls, scarves, mufflers, mantillas, veils, ties, bow ties, cravats and gloves. Provision for deemed credit @ 20% of the excise duty on garment provided for duty paid on inputs.

Textile delegation's visit to Pakistan

1936. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a textile delegation from India has recently visited Pakistan so as to evolve mechanism to protect their interest in the textile sector against the moves by the European Union; and

(b) if so, the decisions taken by the officials of both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) No delegation sponsored either by the Ministry of Textiles or Textile Export Promotion Councils has visited Pakistan in the recent past.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.